

Important points-ENGLISH

FIRST FLIGHT

Glimpses of india

A Baker from Goa

1. The story is of a baker living in a Goan village.
2. During those times people ate loaves of bread. These were made in big furnaces.
3. The baker had a peculiar dress, Kabai.
4. The author remembers the coming of the baker twice a day during his childhood days.
5. Bol or sweet bread is a part of marriage gifts, cakes and Bolinhas or coconut cookies are eaten at every festival and the lady of the house prepares sandwiches at her daughter's engagement.
6. They generally collect their bills at the end of every month.
7. Baking was a profitable business at that time.

Coorg

1. Coorg is a story describing the Coorg or Kodagu, the smallest district of Karnataka.
2. Coorg is a heavenly place that lies between Mangalore and Mysore.
3. There's a famous story about the Greek or Arabic descent of the Coorg people that a part of Alexander's army had to settle

here as it was not possible for them to return. They thus settled here and married with the locals. We may find people of Coorg wear Kuppia, a long black coat similar to the kuffs that Arabs wear.

4. The Coorg Regiment of the Indian Army is one of the most significant regiments.
5. Our first army chief, General Cariappa hails from Coorg.
6. The forests and hills of Coorg provide a major source of water to the River Cauvery.

Tea from Assam

1. Rajvir and Pranjol travelling to Assam.
2. Rajvir tells Pranjol that people drink over 800,000,000 cups of tea throughout the world in a day.
3. Rajvir is looking at the beautiful and serene scenery.
4. Pranjol is busy reading detective books.
5. Assam has the largest tea plantations and no one knows who discovered the tea for the first time.
6. Legends about discovery of tea
 - a. According to a Chinese legend, a few branches of tea fell accidentally in the boiled hot water. The Emperor liked the delicious flavour. This is how it came into being.
 - b. As per an Indian legend, Buddhist Monk Bodhidharma cut off his eyelids to avoid sleep during meditation. About ten tea plants grew out of these and thus, they banish sleep when put in hot water and drunk.

Madam Rides the Bus

1. The main character of this story is an eight-year-old girl
Valli
2. She keeps standing inside the doorway of her residence and
watches people in the street. This was her favourite pastime.
3. She started collecting information about the timings of the
bus from her neighbours.
4. Details she got about the bus:
 - a. The bus travels to the town near her village which was
approximately six miles
 - b. The fare was thirty paise for one way.
5. Valli's plan
 - a. She planned to travel in the afternoon when her
mother was having her nap.
 - b. She needs 60 paise for the journey to the town and the
returning journey.
 - c. The bus was comfortable and the seats were luxurious.
 - d. On her journey, she enjoyed watching mountains, green
fields, and palm trees grassland.

The Sermon at Benares

1. One day, on his way to hunt, the Prince met a sick man, an aged man, a funeral procession and a monk begging for alms. These experiences acted as eye-openers for him and thus, he left all the royalty behind to seek a higher sense of spiritual knowledge.
2. He gave his first sermon in the city of Benares.
3. The story of Kisa Gotami
 - a. There was a lady named Kisa Gotami whose son had died. Suffering with unending pain, she went from house to house looking for medicine to bring her son back to life. People started thinking that the lady had lost her senses.
 - b. One day, she met a man who directed her towards Lord Buddha who could possibly have a solution for her problem.
 - c. Buddha asked her to look for mustard seeds and the seeds must be procured from a house that had seen no death
 - d. She could not find mustard seeds from a house that would fulfil Buddha's condition.
4. According to Lord Buddha, feelings of grief and sorrow only increase man's pain and suffering thus, deteriorating his health. Therefore, a wise person fully aware about nature's functioning must not grieve at something bound to happen and only then can he be happy and blessed.

The Proposal

The proposal is a play whose original name is "The marriage proposal"

1. The main characters in this play are Ivan Vassiliyitch Lomov, Natalia Stepanovna, Stepan Stepanovitch Chubokov
2. Lomov is a 35 years old gentleman who suffers from palpitations and gets upset very easily.
3. Natalya is 25 years old and is average-looking and an honest caretaker.
4. Both Chubokov and Lomov belong from wealthy families.
5. Lomov thought that Natalya was an excellent housekeeper, a well-educated and average-looking woman who would be an ideal partner to marry.
6. On the day Lomov was dressed very well and he was there to ask for Natalya's hand for marriage.
7. Chubokov did not tell her daughter that lomov had come, he told that someone had come to buy something.
8. After seeing lomov Natalya I was surprised to see him in good dresses then they started some conversation about their land
9. During that conversation Oxen Meadows, a piece of land was in dispute but lomov had the legal papers of that land but Natalya tells that it was her family's land. And they stated to quarrel on this like a child (as it's was mine ,mine)
10. This quarrel also continues with the nature of the family members of both the families.

11. The. Lomov's conditions worsen then he shouted and ran out but collapsed there
12. Then Chubokov told Natalya that he was here to ask the hand of yours for marriage.
13. Natalya shouted to bring him back ,Then again started to talk about their dogs.
14. Then again they started to quarrel as Natalya strongly believes that her dog Squeez is better in comparison to Lomov's Guess.
15. Everyone gets hyper and Lomov finally falls because of palpitation
16. Then Natalia noticed lomov and as he was not moving she declared him dead but later lomov woke up and moved a little bit.
17. Chubukov forcefully hands over Natalya's hands to him, gives his blessings and asks them to kiss.
18. Now the question might arise why Natalia again called back lomov after such a big quarrel, after knowing that he was there too you ask her hand.
The drama displays the greed of rich families to marry their children into other wealthy families with the aim of enhancing their wealth.

POEMS

Amanda

1. The girl named Amanda and her mother who is irritating her for her mistakes.
2. Amanda uses her imagination to escape her parents' day-to-day commands.
3. In the following ways she imagines herself:
 - a. Amanda imagines herself as a free-spirited mermaid gliding across the green sea's gentle waves.
 - b. She imagines herself as an orphan wandering freely, barefoot in golden silence and uninterrupted freedom.
 - c. She fantasises herself as Rapunze. In the tower, she will live an alone and peaceful life.

Animals

1. In the poem 'Animals', the poet Walt Whitman admires the animals for being better than human beings. He praises them also for possessing all such qualities that humans lack or have forgotten.
2. Following are the character loved by the poet about animals:
 - a. Animals are calm and self-sufficient.
 - b. They do not whine and weep about their conditions.
 - c. They are always satisfied and do their duty towards God.
 - d. Animals always express their love and respect for human beings.
 - e. Animals spend a life of satisfaction and peace.

The Tale of Custard the Dragon

1. The tale of custard the dragon is a ballad. It is a humorous poem about a cowardly dragon named custard.
2. Characters in the poem:
 - a. A black kitten named ink.
 - b. A grey mouse named blink

- c. A yellow dog named mustard.
- d. A little dragon named custard

3. The whole situation changes when a pirate attacks Belinda's house. No one else had the guts to face him, it was the dragon that killed the pirate. All the characters are happy because they are saved by the dragon but quickly change their thoughts and describe themselves to be more powerful had the situation not been so confusing for all of them.

FOOTPRINTS WITHOUT FEET

The Making Of Scientist

OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

Richard Ebright (Born: 1959) was a scientist who grew up north of Reading, Pennsylvania and excited the scientific world with a theory about cell life.

MAIN POINTS

1. Richard grew up in the north of Reading, Pennsylvania.
2. In kindergarten, Ebright used to collect Butterflies, rocks, fossils and coins.
3. He had a driving curiosity and with a bright mind.
4. Ebright's mother had always encouraged his interest, she also took him on trips, bought him telescopes, microscopes, cameras, mounting materials, and other equipment and helped him in many other ways.

5. Ebright's mother also gave him a book called "Travels of Monarch X" which opened the world of science to him.
6. After the end of the book, readers were invited to help the study of butterfly migration for the research by Dr Frederick A. Urquhart. So they were asked to tag butterflies and whoever finds the butterflies with the tag should send the tag to Dr. Urquhart.
7. In his 7th grade he came to know about real science as he entered a county science fair where he lost and he learnt that to win he should do real experiments, not simply make a neat diagram.
8. In an 8th grade project Ebright tried to find the cause of the viral disease which kills nearly all the monarch caterpillars every few years.
9. In his 9th grade science fair project he tested the theory that viceroy butterflies copy Monarchs.

The Necklace

1. Mme. Matilda Loisel lived in an apartment with her husband M. Loisel was very unhappy and unsatisfied with what life had given her.
2. She had to marry a clerk in the office of the board of education just because her family couldn't afford to give her dowry.
3. She also hated visiting her old friend Mme. Jeanne Forestier as she was a rich lady and Matilda envied her.

4. One day when her husband returned home from work, he got an invitation to a party at the house of the minister of public instruction. Contrary to his expectation, Matilda was irritated and angry and threw the card away.
5. She was upset because she didn't have anything to wear at such an extravagant party.
6. Her husband gave her 400 francs to buy a new dress that he had been saving to buy a gun so that he could go hunting with his friends.
7. They went to the minister's party and all the men admired her as she was looking gorgeous in her new dress and jewellery.
8. They returned at 4 in the morning.
9. It took them ten years to repay all the loans and in these years their lives changed drastically.
10. On hearing this, Jeanne told Matilda that the necklace that she had borrowed was a fake one and was not worth more than 500 francs.

The Hack Driver

1. The narrator of the story explains that after completing his graduation he started working with a famous law firm in the city.
2. One day, he got the task of serving summons to Oliver Lutkins who was a key witness in some cases. He lived in a small town named New Mullion.

3. The narrator was very excited to visit a small and beautiful town but his excitement ended by the dull appearance of the town.
4. He saw a hack driver standing at the platform who was very cheerful and nice.
5. A deal was cracked between both- he decided to hire Bill's hack and go on a search for Lutkins. Bill somehow traps the lawyer in his story and they visit different places in search of Lutkins.
6. He had even started comparing village people to city people. Later on, they went to search for Lutkins at his mother's house on the basis of information derived from one of his friends.
7. At this time, the truth was revealed by his companion that the hack driver was none other than Lutkins himself. The clerk felt so bad and ashamed of how he had been fooled by a villager.

Bholi

1. The story opens up with the introduction of a little girl named Sulekha. She was called 'Bholi' for being a simpleton.
2. This was so because some part of her brain had got damaged due to an injury during her childhood.
3. She was a laughing stock for everyone. Her father Ramlal was a Numberdar.
4. He had three sons and four daughters, Bholi being the youngest of all.
5. One day, the Tehsildar visited their village to inaugurate a girl's primary school. He persuaded Ramlal to send his daughters to

school. Ramlal's wife suggested sending Bholi to school, although she was against sending girls to school because no boy would marry such a girl.

6. She encouraged her to study and speak with confidence.
7. One day Bholi's parents decided to marry her to a lame old man who was a widower but was rich and had not demanded any dowry.
8. On the wedding day, the bridegroom arrived with great pomp and show which filled Ramlal with joy. The groom discovered that Bholi had pock marks and demanded dowry in return for marrying her. He demanded a sum of five thousand rupees.
9. Ramlal begged for mercy and even placed his turban in Bishamber's feet but Bishamber Nath did not agree. Ramlal had to give the money in order to save both his family's honour and his daughter's marriage.
10. People accused her of being shameless. The wedding party returned.
11. Her father was surrounded by grief and said that now no one would marry her and what would she do in future. To this, she replied that she would take care of her parents when they grew old and would teach in her school.
12. Her teacher who was quietly watching all this felt proud of her decision.

***** Points to be added *****

FIRST FLIGHT

Glimpses of india

A Baker from Goa

8. Elders are heard reminiscing nostalgically about the Portuguese days as well as the loaves of bread.
9. Present time dress of bakers was kabai- it was a single piece long frock reaching down the kneese.
10. In the childhood of the author beaker used to wear a shirt and a trouser which were shorter than full length ones but longer than half pants.
11. bakers at that time generally had a jackfruit-like physical appearance.

Coorg

7. Kadavus are still allowed to carry firearms without a licence.
8. The flora and fauna
 - a. Mahaseer a large freshwater fish
 - b. Squirrel
 - c. Langurs
 - d. Elephant
 - e. Bees
 - f. Butterfly
 - g. Macaque Squirrel

9. Adventurous activities

- a. River rafting
- b. Canoeing
- c. Rappelling
- d. Rock climbing
- e. Mountain Biking
- f. Trekking
- g. Walking on the rope bridge leading to 64 acre island of Nisargadhamma.

10. How to reach Coorg-

- a. Madikeri is the only gateway to Coorg.
- b. The nearest airports are Mangalore (135 km) and Bangalore (260 km).
- c. The nearest rail heads are at Mysore, Mangalore and Hassan.
- d. The two land routes to coorg from bangalore are of the same distance (approx 250-260 km).

Tea from Assam

- 7. The tea was 1st drunk in china in 2700 B.C.
- 8. Chai and chini are from Chinese
- 9. Tea came to Europe in the 16th century.
- 10. The 2nd flush or spotting period lasts from May to July and yields the best tea.

Madam Rides the Bus

6. Being a little girl, Valli was a curious, keen observer who had strong will power and determination. She was confident about herself and wanted to do everything on her own. Not only was she intelligent, but also a very careful planner.
7. Valli's real name was Valliammai and she was 8 years old .
8. The most fascinating thing of all was the Bus that travelled between her village and the nearest town.
9. Day after day a gradual tiny wish crept into her head and grew there, that she wanted to ride on that bus even if just one.
10. Whenever her friends used to describe the sight of the town and the bus ride to her, She used to be too jealous to listen and would shout in English: Proud! Proud!. Neither she nor her friend really understood the word but they thought that this was a slang expression of disapproval.
11. She would take a one o'clock afternoon bus and reach the town at 1:45 and again back home at 2:45.
12. Description of the bus
 - a. It was a new bus.
 - b. It was painted with gleaming white and some Green stripes along the outsides
 - c. Inside the overhead bar shorn like silver.
 - d. Directly in front of Valli, above the windshield, there was a beautiful clock

e. The seat was soft and luxurious.

f. Lower part of the window was covered by a Canvas blind

13. Valli saw that a young cow was running very fast in the middle of the road, right in front of the bus. The bus slowed down and the driver sounded his horn loudly again and again. But the animal became frightened and started galloping faster. This made Valli laugh

14. On her return journey, Valli saw a dead cow lying in the middle of the road. It was lying sprawled in a pool of blood, legs spread out, lifeless eyes staring—a horrible scene. So, she felt sad.

15. I don't think that Valli did the right thing in travelling alone to the town without informing her mother. By doing this, she put herself in a vulnerable (unsafe) position as she could have easily been a victim of child abuse had she come in contact with wrong people. In fact, she was lucky to return home safely. Children should always travel along with their parents or elders as they are easy targets for criminals.

Valli could have expressed her desire of travelling in the bus to her mother. I am sure that her mother would have fulfilled her wish by taking her on a bus ride. It might happen that her mother would not allow her that time. But being a caring mother, she would definitely take her on a bus ride. Travelling alone is never safe because one has no idea about the routes and might get lost. So it is always better to inform your parents before doing such acts.

